



August, 1992

Volume XXIII Number 7

FREE

Street Trees Sprouting on Potrero Hill

By Stephanie Potter

Tired of looking at power lines and the glare of asphalt streets? of breathing the freeway exhaust of 101 and 280? of the din of Muni buses and poorly muffled motorcycles? There is an antidote, and it doesn't necessarily mean checking into a bed and breakfast up in Mendocino.

Last month dozens of neighbors got together to bring a bit of the country to Potrero Hill — by planting trees. Bright and early on a Saturday morning, over 40 people were gathered around a small portable forest on Wisconsin Street, munching on muffins, chugging down orange juice and coffee, and blowing up bright green balloons. Next they were preparing bags of gravel for irrigation, and carting the trees, 63 in all, onto waiting pickups. Soon small teams could be seen all over the west side of the Hill, carefully placing the trees into their new sidewalk homes.

When the planters gathered together later for a picnic at Arkansas Park, the sense of delight was palpable. Dave Haslett of Kansas Street pronounced his block an "instant improvement! The street looks great!"

Lynn Rodriguez, proud new owner of a yellow magnolia, helped to organize the event and has lived on Wisconsin Street a year and a half. "Now it's one of the cutest streets," she declared. "It was emotional for me. It's such a huge improvement." Plus it was simply fun. "I was driving one of the pickup trucks. When I looked back I'd see the neighbors with these huge grins on their faces. It was great to be out there with your neighbors, to get to know them better."



Trees, hanging out together in a small forest formation on Wisconsin Street, waiting to be settled into their new sidewalk homes. Vos Arnoutoff photo

Rezin Jaulus, an 18-year-old who will be attending UC Santa Cruz this fall, didn't get to put a tree in front of her house, but still wanted to help plant. She was thrilled: "It was totally cool! I want to do it again."

It will happen again August 15 — 120 more trees. This time over the east side of the Hill and south down in the neighborhood just on the bay side of Highway 280.

Residents were able to obtain the trees free through a grant allocated to the Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) by the California Transportation Commission. According to Mel Johnson of FUF, money had been made available through Proposition 111, a massive transportation proposal to increase construction of highways, rail and mass transit. The bill also called for money to be set aside to mitigate some of the effects of traffic. Potrero Hill was one of seven San Francisco neighborhoods that qualified for the free trees because it is surrounded by freeways which, according to Johnson, are expected to carry increased traffic.

Trees mitigate traffic effects by taking in carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen, by decreasing the visual effect of such things as electric lines, and by reducing noise pollution. Johnson explained that their absorption of carbon dioxide helps to reverse the greenhouse effect and global warming. Rodriguez added that FUF's goal is "to re-forest the earth one neighborhood at a time."

Most people agreed with Rodriguez that one of the primary reasons to plant trees is simply because "they look nice, and they improve the neighborhood. It looks more kept up — homey, residential." Her neighbor, Dick Reynolds, who also helped organize the planting added, "It just looks right to see trees on the street. It creates a human scale on wide streets like we have. Trees provide texture, moving with the wind, light and shade, and people relate to them directly. When people drive up and down city streets, they tend to like the houses with trees. Shrubbery hides the ugly houses, the problem houses. Trees increase property values."

Reynolds admitted that some home owners object to trees because of sidewalk damage. "There can be problems

and that must be faced," he said. "But it can be avoided with deep watering, planting properly, using root guards and keeping the tree trimmed." Johnson added, "If you plant the right tree and take care of it the right way, sidewalk eruption is a minimal problem." Rodriguez pointed out that shade from trees actually makes sidewalks last longer.



She suggested that people water their trees properly to encourage the roots to go deep, and not remain up at the surface. After a couple of years, the tree takes its water out of the water table and takes care of itself. FUF trees were planted with deep root water tubes to encourage deep root growth. Otherwise, Rodriguez suggested that the tree owner punch tiny holes in the bottom of a five gallon bucket, place it by the tree and fill it with water twice a week. "The water slowly drains very deeply and encourages the roots to go down," she said.

To organize another neighborhood tree planting with Friends of the Urban Forest, there needs to be at least 30 trees planted and the cost is \$145 per tree (it's too late to get in on the free trees). FUF offers a wide variety of trees. Replacement of FUF trees is only \$50. Johnson said the attrition rate of trees through disease or drought is usually about 10-20 percent, although last year's freeze "killed 3800 trees in one night."

If you'd like to help with the planting in August, give FUF a call: 543-5000.

GETTING INVOLVED

TREE PLANTING CONGRATULATIONS! The response was such an overwhelming success — over 180 trees ordered! The next planting date will be August 15. If you'd like to help with the planting and want to know where to meet, call: Kurt Hase, 285-6202; Dick Reynolds, 285-6292; Lynne Rodriguez, 282-8820, or Friends of the Urban Forest, 543-5000, for information.

THE GARDEN CLUB will hold its pot luck and plant swap the third Wednesday of the month, August 19, at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro in the Game Room at 6:30 p.m.

THE POTRERO LEAGUE OF ACTIVE NEIGHBORS (PLAN) will hold an Executive Committee meeting Wednesday, August 12. This is not a regular members' meeting, although anybody is welcome to attend. If people have something they'd like to bring up or place on the agenda call Elizabeth Boileau at 826-6359, or Janet Carpinelli at 826-5509. Also call for the time and place of the meeting.

THE POTRERO HILL BOOSTERS hold their meeting the last Tuesday of the month, August 25, upstairs at the Potrero Public Library, 1616 20th at Connecticut Street. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Be there at 7 p.m. for a half-hour of socializing.

THE POTRERO HILL DEMOCRATIC CLUB will hold its meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, August 11, at 7 p.m. It will be held at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro.

RESIDENTS OF THE SOUTHEAST SECTOR (ROSES) is an organization that facilitates interaction between the police and the community. It will be holding its meeting Thursday, August 6 at 7 p.m. at the Esprit Corporate Office, 900 Minnesota St. A guest speaker is expected.



IN OUR VIEW

We Thank You

As most of us are aware, the Potrero Hill community retains many qualities of a small village, wherein genuine concern for one's neighbors in times of both happiness and sadness is expressed. Most recently an outpouring of concern and sympathy has been extended to members of the staff of this newspaper who have lost loved ones within the last few months.

The wife and husband of two staffers, and the father-in-law of another have died within weeks of each other. The trauma of such losses has left marks on all of us, especially since we are such a close community within a community.

We have never experienced such personal tragedies so closely time-linked together. But, because we are "family," the ability to carry on and meet our deadlines has been vastly helped by the support of our many friends, neighbors and readers.

We thank you for your thoughts, letters, prayers, cards, hugs and well wishes.

Our 22nd Year

This month heralds the **View's** 22nd birthday.

Over the years hundreds of volunteers have left their personal stamp on this newspaper, and many from the early years return occasionally to pitch in and help produce the **View**. Others let us know they are still around and reading what we have to report about the "old" neighborhood.

We are extremely proud of the mark we have left on the Potrero Hill community, its people, and in the general context of neighborhood journalism.



Masthead design by
Giacomo Patri

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Judy Baston
EDITORIAL STAFF: Vas Arnautoff, Judy Baston, Ruth Passen

AUGUST STAFF: Vas Arnautoff, Judy Baston, Maya Charbonneau, Cydney Feinstein, Paul Gershater, Larry Gonick, Bob Hayes, E. Samira Hoyer, Julia Jaurigui, Abby Johnston, Denise Kessler, Ann Longknife, Winifred Mann, Stephanie Potter, Lester Zeidman and Sally Taylor.

Editorial and policy decisions are made by the staff. All staff positions are voluntary. Published once a month except January.

Address all correspondence to **THE POTRERO VIEW**, 953 De Haro St., San Francisco, Ca. 94107. Telephone: 824-7516

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MUSING Out Loud

When we first moved up to Potrero Hill (an "aliya" as we were to call it later) we lived in the 800 block of Wisconsin Street. This was 32 + years ago. We had a party one night -- maybe a housewarming, though I can't really remember. There is one thing about that evening that I'll never forget, though. It was a hot night and our front door was open. We had been having a good time and being somewhat noisy so we weren't really surprised when a uniformed gentleman appeared on the threshold. But he wasn't a lad from the Potrero Station. He was a Muni bus driver who had halted his #53 bus in the middle of the block. He stood in our doorway and called out loudly "Last bus down the Hill!" Does that happen any more?

Isn't it strange how such a small area as Potrero Hill can have so many distinctive streets? There's Pennsylvania without overhead wires, Vermont with its dizzying curves (tighter than the famous Lombard Street curleycue), 18th and 20th Streets (both commercial but the former having all the evening activity when the latter shuts down). My favorite at the moment (and not because I live on it; I don't) is 24th Street between Rhode Island and De Haro. Its cobblestones have never been paved over and the sidewalks are steps. A bit of old Potrero Hill as it was years ago. Contrast this with the monotony of the Richmond and Sunset districts.

We learned just days ago that there's another Olympic team soccer player with strong Hill ties. He's Zak Ibsen, a striker from the U.C.L.A. team and we'll have more to say about him when we have a chance to talk with him on his return from Barcelona.

Incidentally, the word is that the U.S. Olympic Committee sends our athletes home as soon as they're finished with their stint -- win, lose or draw. No hanging around to watch other events -- too expensive. Hope it's not true. You'd think the kids might get some thanks for the effort they've made in the form of spectator status for the remainder of the games.

- Vas Arnautoff



Letters

Passen - An Inspiration

Editor:

We do not mourn the loss of Joe Passen but we remember the ever present spirit. Joe was always an inspiration to us at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. His constant energy, his

living by actions and not by words and his driven quest for liberation made Joe a symbol of freedom for myself as well as many others. The man never gave up. We hunger and thirst for younger editions of Joe Passen and those freedom fighters from the waterfront.

Joe always supported and constantly inquired about the activities of the Omega Club and Family. Joe's spirit will never be far away. God bless Joe the teacher, the inspiration and the freedom fighter.

Jack Jacqua
Omega Boys Club

MUNI - BART Tix at NABE

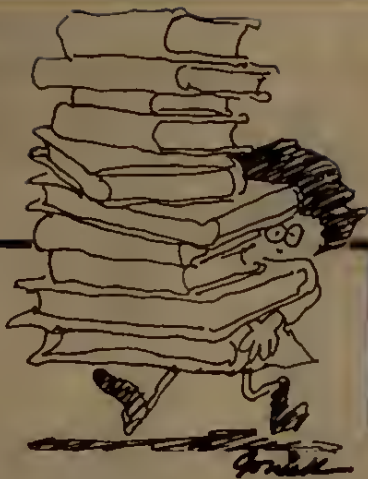
MUNI and BART tickets are available at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., Mondays through Fridays, during office hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Senior Muni	\$5.00
Youth Muni	\$5.00
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LIBRARY NEWS
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Wednesday 1 - 8 pm
Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 1 - 6 pm

Browsing through the books in the reference collection at your branch library can be rewarding for board game players, trivia buffs, and anyone else who would like to have at recall a wide variety of ready facts. Especially recommended is a book on the open reference shelves at Potrero Branch: John Bartlett's "Collection of Familiar Quotations" (Boston: Little, Brown & Company, 1980), revised every few years to include sayings and writings of the newly famous, near famous, and in some instances, the infamous.

"Bartlett's" contains exact quotations of Julius Caesar and all the other Caesars: Jesus Christ; Shakespeare (this edition has 65 pages of quotes from his tragedies, comedies, sonnets, etc.); Confucius; President John F. Kennedy, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Also included are Mick Jagger, Andy Warhol, and John Lennon.

I was thumbing through "Bartlett's" when my eye caught the quotation "The Love of money is the root of all evil" (Bible, 1 Timothy 6:10, KJV). This passage of scripture is frequently misquoted as "Money is the root of all evil."

Bartlett's book is not the only book of quotations in the collection. The Potrero Branch has two others: "Home Book of

Quotations" by Burton E. Stevenson (New York: Dood, Mead & Company); and "Morrow's International Dictionary of Contemporary Quotations," compiled by John Green (New York: William Morrow & Company, 1982). So, next time you're in the library, check out (oops!) browse through the reference collection.

The summer reading program is a great success. We have exhausted our supply of Giants' ticket vouchers, which means that there are at least 35 kids on the Hill who have each read eight books since the program began June 13. Many have read more than eight.

Hey, Kids, keep reading; remember that "Library kids have tons of fun." Also, more prizes are coming, e.g., tickets to the Discovery Museum, and to the Planetarium at Golden Gate Park — both fun, fun places!

Programs for August will include two family storytimes (August 5 and 19) and two family film nights (Aug. 12 and 26). Storytime and film night are held on Wednesday, at 7 p.m. Lapsits continue every Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

Darcus Thomas
Substitute Librarian

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

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Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

Youth Council Meetings	-	Wed., 6 p.m.
Girls Club Meetings	-	Mon., 5-7 p.m.
Omega Boys Club Meetings	-	1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.
		Every Tues., 7:30 p.m.
Study Hall	-	Tues., 5-7 p.m.
Juvenile Diversion		
Tutorial Program		
Job Referral		
Al-Anon	-	Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Alcohol Anonymous	-	Sun/Mon/Thurs, 8:30 p.m.
Cocaine Anonymous	-	Sat., 6-7 p.m.

Social Development Center: For developmentally disabled adults. Basic education, cultural enrichment, consumer and health education, field trips, sensorimotor development, work training, leisure time use, group and individual counseling.

Senior Citizens Program: Hot lunches every weekday (at small cost). Activities include - bingo games, information and referral, counseling, social hour, games and recreation.

Classes: Photography, Arts & Crafts.

Potrero Hill Neighborhood Theatre (cost, \$5-7 per performance).

Facilities:

Meeting spaces available for use by community groups
Auditorium for theatre presentations, lectures, workshops and receptions
Gymnasium and recreational space
Photographic workshop
Bulletin board with job and events listings
Mini-park
Child Development Center (for pre-school children)

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TEN YEARS AGO

In The View.

THE HILL'S OWN GRAND CHAMPION: A picture of a beaming Al Quintanu at work graced Page 1 of the August, 1982 **VIEW**. Cable car gripman Quintana had just won the Grand Champion Cable Car Bell Ringing Contest, derailing the prevailing champ after five times, and called it the greatest thing that's happened to him. The **View** staffer who wrote the caption was somewhat unclear on the concept when he/she wrote: "The big winning technique was switching hands to ring the bell and also steer the cable car." Steer? A cable car? Quintana won \$1,000 and guest appearances on shows such as Johnny Carson's.

HOUSING PLANS ALIVE DESPITE BUILDER PULLOUT: Plans for 110 new units of housing on the south slope of Potrero Hill got a jolt when the Barratt Corporation pulled out of their contract with the City in July. The site, bounded by Wisconsin, 23rd, De Haro and 26th Streets, was to be developed into a one-third mix each of low income, moderate and middle income units. Construction was to begin in November or December. Barratt spokespersons expressed dissatisfaction with the deal "because the project profit margin is small," but an irate Mayor Dianne Feinstein and Assemblyman Art Agnos assured the community that they are determined to see the project through.

MISSION BAY MEETING ALLAYS NO FEARS: The second of a series of community meetings on the huge 195 acre Mission Bay Project drew about 100 Potrero Hill residents to the Middle School auditorium on July 6. Citizens were concerned that the development, roughly bounded by Townsend, Third, Seventh and Mariposa Streets, would have a negative impact on views, public transportation and parking. But despite the developers' assurances that requests for public input were sincere and not simply "to give the illusion of community participation" local residents remained skeptical.

NO STADIUM: A copy of a letter written to mayor Feinstein by two Hill residents and printed in the **VIEW** protested the plans for the construction of a new baseball stadium at Mariposa and Third Streets. Some ideas die hard.

CELEBRATE ENOLA D. MAXWELL'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY: The Executive Director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House was set to celebrate 10 years in that position at a party to be held August 29.

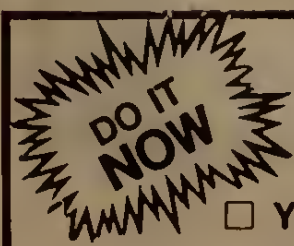
NEW TREES AT SHOWPLACE SQUARE: "Only in San Francisco can you find so many people drinking champagne before noon," quipped Mayor Feinstein at the dedication ceremony for the planting of 100 trees at Showplace Square. Also present were Assemblyman Art Agnos and Clarendon Adams, widow of Showplace developer Henry Adams.

CARTOONING THE UNIVERSE: THE **POTRERO VIEW's** cartoonist Larry Gonick had just published Book One of his "Cartoon History of the Universe." When asked how he got the idea for the project, he said, "I wanted to have a subject where I wouldn't run out of material." The unique and very witty history is still being printed.

THIS AND THAT: A sculpture park that will display some 50 of Benuamino Bufano's works for two years opened at the Galleria Design Center... Demolition began on the old paint factory and Synanon building at 23rd and Kansas Streets to make way for an apartment complex... Hill runners who completed the San Francisco Marathon (26 miles, 385 yards) included Frances Bradford, Nancy Bryant, Brian Fitzmaurice, Walter Stack, Dee Telfer and Mike Pechner... the Potrero Hill Recreation Center sponsored its first "Day on the Green" August 21, with three bands, a fashion show, talent show and food... From the classifieds: "Writer for Apple Computer still seeking a cottage on Potrero Hill with garden. Up to \$525/mo."

- Vas Arnautoff

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Clinic Targets its Outreach To Seniors' Special Needs

By Julia Jaurigui

(SECOND OF TWO PARTS)

Although depressive illness can strike at any age, research indicates that over 10 percent of the elderly community may be affected by important and treatable symptoms of depression associated with physical illnesses, life changes, or stress. The National Institute of Mental Health's "Fact Sheet," published by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, states that, among the elderly, depressive illness can take several forms and is often difficult to recognize and may be masked by physical complaints or misperceived by family members and friends as "a normal part of aging."

The Southeast/Mission Geriatric Services Clinic, located at 3905 Mission St. (a few blocks north of Silver Avenue), in addition to providing specialized programs that address the special needs of seniors, offers support services to senior citizens who suffer from depression as a result of retirement, the loss of a spouse, illness, retirement, or the growing isolation that accompanies memory and hearing loss, and other physical disabilities caused by aging.

A significant number of the clinic's clients suffer from depression and are treated, both on an in-patient and out-patient basis, by highly trained psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers specializing in geriatric psychiatry. In some cases, seniors experiencing depression lack extended family support and are thus in great need of the counseling and treatment offered by the clinic's physicians, staff nurses, recreational therapists, and mental health educators.

If a client is experiencing physical problems and unable to get to the clinic, a staff psychologist and clinical social worker are available to make visits to the client's home.

The clinic's Day Treatment Program, which is highly structured around daily activities that include group therapy, art therapy, hot nutritious lunches, and, if needed, grief group sessions, serves individuals recently released from the hospital or those elderly men and women who are about to be hospitalized for depression and other physical problems.

In-patient clients arrive in the early morning and spend most of their day participating in scheduled activities and, to their great pleasure, socializing with other elderly men and women who share and understand the experience of growing older in our society.

The goal of the Day Treatment Program, says Mary Emma Dean, Project

Director for the Southeast/Mission Clinic, is, within six months time, to provide clients with proper counselling and the treatment necessary to combat depression and the other difficulties that face elderly men and women when they suddenly experience living alone after the death of a spouse, and the physical problems that affect senior citizens.

Dean also notes that the clinic provides transportation to and from the Day Treatment Program if a client is unable to drive or use public transportation. She also stresses that "isolation is a major problem" among the elderly, and the feelings of loss and despair experienced by senior citizens are further exacerbated by our nation's obsession with youth and refusal to revere its elderly citizens.

Although the budget crisis has had an impact on several city agencies, the geriatric budget, according to Dean, has been kept "in place." The fee structure for services remains flexible. The Clinic bills private insurance, Medi-Cal and Medi-Care for its services and, more important for those elderly citizens living on a fixed income, "services are not dependent on a client's ability to pay."

Anyone interested in volunteering or who would like more information regarding the Southeast/Mission Clinic, should call Mary Emma Dean at 337-4722.



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HILL PLANTS TREES



Dick Reynolds (left) gets help from two 20th Street neighbors, Christopher and James Ebersole, as he digs a hole for a tree in front of his Wisconsin Street house. Other Hill residents got learned about tree planting July 18 (right). (See story Page 1)

Vas Arnautoff photos



New Film Features Longshore Leader

An hour-long documentary on International Longshoremen's and Warehouse Union founder Harry Bridges premieres at the Roxie Cinema, 3117-16th St., August 4 and 5.

Narrated by Studs Terkel, written by James Hamilton, a retired longshoreman, and produced and directed by Berry Minott, a Potrero Hill resident, "Harry Bridges: A Man and His Union" documents, in all that an hour allows, the rich and difficult life of a man who led a powerful workers' revolt, was hounded as a communist and finally hailed as a labor statesman.

Using original black and white footage as well as color photography by co-producer John Knoop, the video will broadcast later this summer on KQED-TV. But for a more appropriate setting than your comfortable television couch, join those who remember the days and those who have only heard about them from their parents at the Roxie.

A Bay Area production, "Harry Bridges: A Man and His Union" will be shown Aug. 4 at 6:30, 8 and 9:30 p.m., and Aug. 5 at 2, 3:30, 5, 6:30, 8 and 9:30 p.m. For more details call 431-3611.



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Fathers Fashion Rituals For Sons' Coming of Age

By Cydney Erickson-Feinstein

From births to weddings to funerals, people who have rejected religious tradition face the problem of how to mark life's major milestones. Bernard Weiner, former theatre critic for the San Francisco Chronicle, claims that despite the decline in religious observance there remains a "tremendous hunger for ritual" in our society. Weiner has responded to this perceived need by self-publishing a book for parents who are looking for guidance in planning alternative coming-of-age rituals for their sons. "Boy into Man: A Father's Guide to Initiation of Teenage Sons" describes the ceremony that Weiner and five other fathers designed to mark their sons' passage into manhood.

On a farm three hours north of San Francisco, the group immersed itself in two days of Robert Bly-esque activities ranging from drumming and chanting to campfire lit theatrical productions. The ceremony concluded with the initiates having their feet washed and their "foreheads anointed with oil" by their fathers. Through their creation of this ritual incorporating "archetypal and Universal" activities and themes, the fathers hoped to spare their sons the "lack of meaning" they had felt during their own traditional religious initiation rites years before. Weiner writes of his Bar Mitzvah: "I had participated in an age-old ritual of induction into manhood without having the slightest emotional or even intellectual understanding of how the event connected to my teenage self."

Certainly, many parents feel the need to mark the passage of their children into adulthood, but why assume that chanting in the woods will be any more meaningful for a 13-year-old than chanting in a synagogue or church? Weiner emphasizes that the parents had a desire to have the boys go through an initiation ceremony that would "mean something." But mean something for whom?

In a chapter called "What We Really Felt" one of the initiates writes "...it struck me in the beginning as something the fathers were doing just as much for themselves as us. . . I believe our fathers were at the point in their lives where they were unsure of the real deeper meaning (of masculinity). In teaching us the ways of manhood, they defined for themselves what they should be and justified their thinking as men." The same observation is made again by one of the mothers who writes: "It was clear that this initiation was also going to fill a need for the men, who all came from a generation of more or less absent fathers and overpowering mothers."

Any ceremony, traditional or New Age, can be frustrating and confusing — and ultimately devoid of meaning — if the participants are going through the motions to meet the needs and expectations of others. Yet Weiner advises other parents not to "ask the boys in advance whether they would like to participate in a coming-of-age ritual. Just do it." This is not out of any disrespect for the boys, Weiner writes "but why risk that teenage embarrassment and recalcitrance will get in the way?" Such an attitude overlooks one of the issues central to the coming-

of-age rite: How can a young person take part in a ritual if he is not ready to make his own decision to participate? Part of the significance of the coming-of-age ritual is that a young person demonstrates by undertaking an activity of his own free will, that he is ready for the responsibilities of adulthood. If he is indeed racked by teenage embarrassment perhaps he is not ready for the ceremony — or maybe the ceremony itself is premature.



"Boy Into Man" does offer some innovative and thoughtful suggestions for parents who want to provide meaningful guidance to their sons. But it fails to deliver an alternative that avoids many of the contradictions in traditional coming-of-age ceremonies it simultaneously criticizes.

"Boy into Man: A Father's Guide to Initiation of Teenage Sons" is available on Potrero Hill at Christopher's Books, 1400 18th Street (at Missouri).

The author will be reading from his book at Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia Street, Aug. 4, 7:30 P.M.

CHANTICLEER



The chorus Chanticleer, "An orchestra of voices," will perform the music of Cristobal de Morales, at the Mission Dolores Basilica, Dolores at 16th Streets, Aug. 2 and 8 at 8 p.m. De Morales, a widely recognized major composer from the Iberian peninsula, was the most important figure in early 16th century Spanish sacred music. General admission is \$18, students and seniors, \$14. Call City Box Office, 392-4400 for tickets.



The players (above) in costume for the ritual play prior to the initiation.



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Allen Balderson photo

PLAYROOM OPENS AT S.F. GENERAL

The Play Therapy Program at UCSF-affiliated San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) has a renovated playroom thanks to a \$50,000 donation from the Ronald McDonald Children's Charities.

At the recent opening some special "graduates" of the Play Therapy Program (below) as well as current SFGH patients tried out the playroom for the first time.

Seventy percent of the children at SFGH are admitted due to traumatic in-

cidents such as physical or sexual abuse, accidents, gunshot wounds or burns. The remaining 30 percent usually suffer from such chronic illnesses as diabetes, asthma, sickle cell disease and leukemia.

The SFGH Play Therapy Program was set up in 1988 to help these children, who have limited access to toys, and often have very few visitors. The program focuses on therapy, education and coping skills.



JULIAN THEATRE OFFERS "CHARLIE"



Richard Reineccius as Grandpa is fitted for glasses by Jennifer Tawse and Michael Dingle. With the right glasses he can see to shoot Charlie, in the Julian Theatre's production of Slawomir Mrozek's one-act play "Charlie" playing Thursdays through Sundays at the New College Auditorium, 777 Valencia St. "Charlie" is coupled with Tale Spinner Theater's "Big City Down" by Shoshana Marchand about Mission teenagers facing life crises as they graduate from high school. The double bill closes Sunday, August 9. For tickets and information call the Julian Theatre at 626-8986.

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Among the programs for August at the Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., are: Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m., Benjamin Alire Sainz will read from his new book of short stories "Flowers for the Broken" focussing on the lives of Mexican Americans in the Southwest. Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m., Lower East Side author Darius James will read from his subversive new send-up of racist stereotypes, the novel "Negrophobia". Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m., S.F. Weekly film critic and former private investigator Elizabeth Pincus will read from her mystery novel "Two Bit Tango" which features the debut of new S.F. lesbian private eye Nell Fury. Phone 282-9246 for details of other programs.

Haircuts and the Olympics? Vidal Sassoon sees a connection, having been the official hairstylists of the 1984 games in Los Angeles. So they got five former Olympians to undergo a styling and featured them in a six page spread in the July/August issue of "The City" magazine. A page and a half went to Peter Arnautoff, member of the 1980 Olympic soccer team and son of View staffer Vas Arnautoff.

More help needed! The S.F. Food Bank and the California Restaurant Assn. needs volunteers to help in a food drive at Moscone Center Aug. 18 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Contact Belinda Cruz at 957-1076.

U.C. San Francisco's free "Brown Bag" lectures in August cover such topics as hearing aids, alternative healers and health hucksters, fairy tales about mid-life, and why some pains don't fade. All lectures are held on Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 300 of the Health Sciences West Building, 513 Parnassus Ave. Call 476-4394 for specific dates and topics.


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Some low income families may be eligible for retroactive Medi-Cal benefits dating back to May 1986 as the result of a law suit. The suit, known as the Sneed case, has established the eligibility of a number of individuals already. Contact Mary Maestas-Sandoval at (916)657-1248 for details.

Diabetes can cause vision loss, a special problem for young adults under the age of 50. The Rose Resnick Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is offering a special support group to discuss the special problems affecting this age group. Meetings are held at the Center, 1299 Bush St. Call 441-1980 for details.

Kudos to the Hill's Connecticut Yankee restaurant. They showed the Triplecast airing of the Olympics on three screens and are donating 10 percent of their take during the sports spectacle to the Special Olympics.

Young people (16 to 24) interested in construction training and basic education leading to a G.E.D. are being invited to make appointments for interviews concerning next year's program. Youthbuild San Francisco is an 11 1/2 month program preparing high school dropouts, men and women, to enter the job market in the construction trades. Contact Golden T. Venters at 864-7627. Deadline is Aug. 23.

The American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, housing perhaps the first publicly funded Chinese medical clinic in the U.S., announces that the clinic has expanded its hours to accommodate more patients. New hours are: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Phone for appointments at 282-9603. Address - 450 Connecticut St.

The fourth Northern California Table Tennis Tournament invites participants and spectators to witness the world's fastest indoor Olympic Sport August 22 and 23. The tournament will be held at the Sunset Rec Center at Lawton St. and 28th Ave. To compete call 333-0947. Admission for spectators is free.

Help! The Martin De Porres Soup Kitchen needs volunteers for breakfast and lunch shifts at its facility at 225 Potrero at 15th St. Call 552-0240 and ask for Abby or Charlie. You'll feel good about it.

"What's going on in the birth control field?" asks the San Francisco Chapter of the National Organization for Women. NOW's Reproductive Rights Task Force takes up the question at the organization's general meeting August 18 at the Women's Building, 3543 - 18th St. Guest speakers Luz Alvarez Martinez, Carol Ruth Silver, Marsha Gelt and Ann Duffett will discuss the risks and benefits of controversial birth control methods and then answer your questions. Time - 7 to 9 p.m. Phone 861-8936 for more details.

The Ramp Restaurant in the boatyard down at China Basin at Mariposa St. features live music Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in the evening. It's Jazz and Salsa on Fridays, Brazilian on Saturdays and Jazz on Sundays. Call 621-2378 for specific dates.

The Potrero Hill Rec Center is the site of the upcoming Women's Pro-Am Invitational Summer Basketball Tournament Aug. 14-16. Teams from Seattle, Sacramento, Marin County and the Bay Area will compete. That's at Arkansas and Madera Sts.

A free, fun-filled Field Day, sponsored by the Friends of Recreation and Parks and S.F.'s Rec and Park Dept. will be held Friday, Aug. 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sharon Meadow in Golden Gate Park. Kids aged 3 to 12 will participate in Make-a-Circus, arts and crafts, face painting and the like. More info at 337-4712.

On August 3 and 4 the S.F. Pro-Am Basketball League playoffs take place at Kezar Pavilion at Stanyan and Waller Sts. Admission free to the games that start at 8 p.m.

Free croquet instructions for seniors 60 and over are being provided Aug. 5 at the Stern Grove Croquet Lawns, 19th Ave. at Wawona St. The session goes from 1 to 4 p.m. and flat-soled shoes are required. Call 776-4104 for details.

Artists living and/or working in the Potrero Hill area interested in exhibiting in the Annual Potrero Hill Artists Show Oct. 17-Nov. 7, should contact the Potrero Library at 285-3022. The show's opening will coincide this year with the Potrero Hill Festival, Oct. 17.

The San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is sponsoring Sunday afternoon walking tours of Fisherman's Wharf and the Hyde Street Pier. The ranger-led tours will begin at 2 p.m. in front of the Red & White ferry terminal at Pier 41, every Sunday through August. The one-mile tour will focus on historic sites and the "stories behind the storefronts" along the wharf areas. Casual clothing and comfortable shoes are recommended. For additional information call 556-3002.

90-plus year old Ellie Baine can be seen strutting around the Hill these days showing friends sports pages clippings about her grandson, David Baine, who has been signed by the San Francisco Giants baseball team. Left handed pitcher Baine was chosen in the 31st round of the amateur baseball draft June 2.

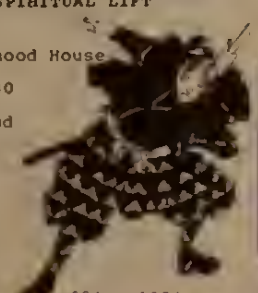
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Fair Offers Contest Prizes

By Sally Taylor

Although the San Francisco Fair doesn't happen until Labor Day weekend, September 5-7 at the Civic Center, it's time now, neighbors, to prepare for those zany but prize-awarding contests.

Among these is a "Neatest Neighborhood" contest, the winners of which will receive free tickets to the Fair and their own awards banquet. But you have to form a group and sign up now!



For those less neighborly, there are individual contests like: the best vocal imitation of a fog horn (PRIZE: an overnight stay in a romantic lighthouse and cruise tickets); a recycled art contest (PRIZE: a world of art supplies plus a public display); cash prizes for the Best Chocolate Chip Cookie; a monologue contest on San Francisco places (PRIZE: a photo-shoot, make-up kits and cash); plus a Landmark Scavenger Hunt; Ballroom Dancing Contest; Homebrewing Contest; Landmark Drinks contest (bartenders, pro and amateur may apply); top cats and dogs photography contest (PRIZE: grooming services and TV stardom); a Great San Francisco Columnist Contest; a Karaoke Contest; and, last but not least, an Impossible Parking Space Race (PRIZE: a new scooter).

Deadlines are approaching for contestants wishing to participate. A booklet of contest rules and registration forms is now available by calling the Fair at 703-2729, or check the Library or Safeway Stores for the Official S.F. Fair Contest Book.

(HINT: The Neatest Neighborhood contest only requires participation of any two neighbors. Specific clean-up areas must be designated, before and after shots supplied as well as the average number of bags of garbage and recyclables collected per person in the group. Size and duration of clean-up will also be considered and additional prizes will be awarded for the "Most Improved Neighborhood," and the largest or most unusual piece of trash removed. Perhaps this is our chance to get rid of that ridiculous griffon at the Henry Adams circle at the foot of Kansas Street).

The Fair itself will once again include the 1992 National Skateboard Association Championships. Plenty of live music, too.

Youth Program

The Potrero Hill Neighborhood House's annual Summer Youth Expressions Day, featuring original skits, pantomime and dances, takes place on Sunday, Aug. 16, at 953 De Haro St.

This unique program, fashioned by the young people themselves, gives the youth a chance to participate in and entertain an audience of neighbors, friends and family.

Admission to the event, which begins at 3 p.m., is \$1, and refreshments will be available. More information is available through Joyce Armstrong or Shawn Owens at 826-8080.

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Lester Zeidman and Jack Jacqua

Ruth Possen photos

Jack Jacqua, co-founder of the Omega Boys Club, was honored for his work with the youth of this community at a special afternoon reception at the Neighborhood House July 12. More than 100 people listened while young and old admirers related stories of how Jacqua looked after and cared for youth in trouble, bringin them into the Omega community, helping them return to school and/or jobs. President of the Neighborhood House's Board of Directors Lester Zeidman presented Jacqua with a plaque (right). Longtime Hill businessman Ray Cicerone was honored at a special reception July 22 on the occasion of his retirement. The event, held at Anchor Steam Brewery, drew business people, friends and neighbors, and Supervisor Jim Gonzalez presented Cicerone with a special resolution from the S.F. Board of Supervisors (left).

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Two current photography exhibits concentrate on the lives of children in America: "Shooting Back: A Photographic View of Life by Homeless Children" (upper photo), is on view at the Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission St. through Aug. 15. "Outside the Dream: Child Poverty in America," (lower photo) runs through Sept. 5 at Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission St.



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PERFORMING ARTS ROUNDUP

MULTI-ETHNIC THEATRE, Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., presents 3 one-act plays, "The Happy Journey," by Thornton Wilder, "Happy Ending," by Douglas Turner Ward, and "The Death of Bessie Smith," by Edward Albee, Aug. 1, at 8 p.m. Tickets at the door. Call 337-7890.

NEW PERFORMANCE GALLERY, 3153 17th St. at Shotwell, presenting "Jazz in the Afternoon," Sunday, Aug. 9, 1-4 p.m. The Soma Quartet in a program featuring compositions by Thelonius Monk, John Coltrane and Duke Ellington plus original works by members of the group. Benefit for Friendship Line for the Elderly. Reservations: 863-9834.

THEATER ARTAUD, 450 Florida St. at 17th, presenting its Fourth Annual Performance Marathon: Aug. 1-2, Onsite Dance Co. (673-1674). Aug. 6-7, Project Bandaloop (510-841-1343). Aug. 8-9, The Jon Weaver Entertainment Project (826-3026). Aug. 13-14, Scott Wells Dance Co. (885-3340). Aug. 15-16, Nancy Karp + Dancers (510-653-1195), 7:30 p.m. Aug. 20-21, Mercy Sidbury/Bloodlines (586-4466). Aug. 22-23, Company Chaddick and Lily Cai (474-4829). Aug. 27-28, California Contemporary Dancers (221-7452). Aug. 29-30, Malashock Dance & Co. (619-298-3304). Unless otherwise noted, all performances are at 8:00 p.m.

PERFORMING ARTS, Thursdays, Aug. 6, 13, 20 at 1:30 p.m., Golden Gate Bandshell

between the Asian Art Museum and Academy of Science in Golden Gate Park. Free. 474-3914/City Celebrations.

CAPP STREET PROJECT, Mowry Baden's sculptural installation, "Toy Amenty," in Justin Herman Plaza, end of Market Street, now extended through August to Sept. 12. (626 7747). Opening Aug. 14 at 270-14th St.: "Portico de los Angeles" Pilar Olabarria's media installation at Capp Street. (626 7747).

New York poet, playwright and director, Fiona Templeton, now in residence at Capp Street will lead two Performance Workshops in preparation for the development of a new performance/installation piece entitled "Articulate Architecture," to be on view Aug. 14-Sept. 29. The first workshop (Aug. 1, 2, 9 & 10; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) is "Space and Behavior." The second (Aug. 24, 25, 26 & Sept. 1, 2; 7-10 p.m.) is "Language: Improvising, Listening & Reading in Context." Call 626-7747 for details and registration.

DANCERS' GROUP/FOOTWORK, 3221-22nd St. at Mission, will host Charlie's Web performance group as part of its Bread and Butter series on Aug. 14 - 15, 8:30 p.m. The group will present two premieres, "What's Happening," and "The White Ones" in addition to a repertory piece. (824-5044).



The "Elegant Jelly" of Danceground Keriae studio performs at the Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission St. through August. Marc Mond photo



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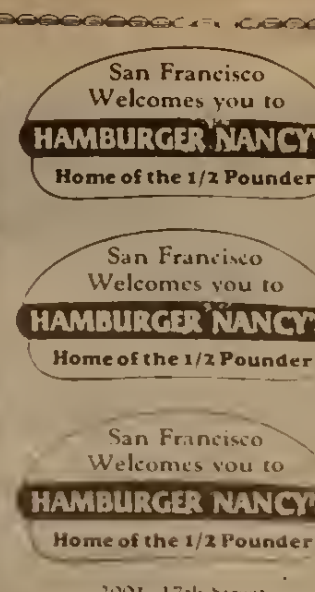
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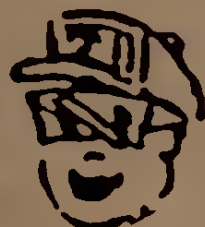
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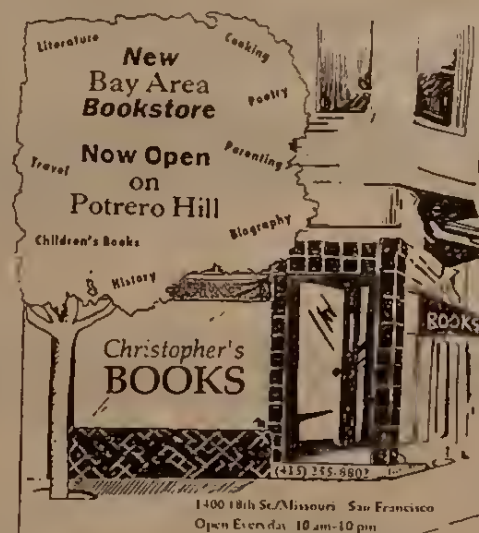
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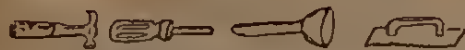
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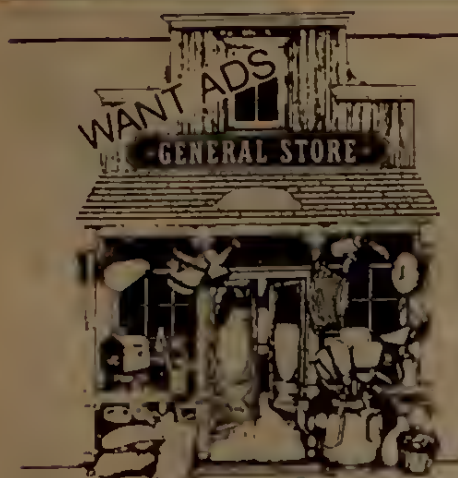
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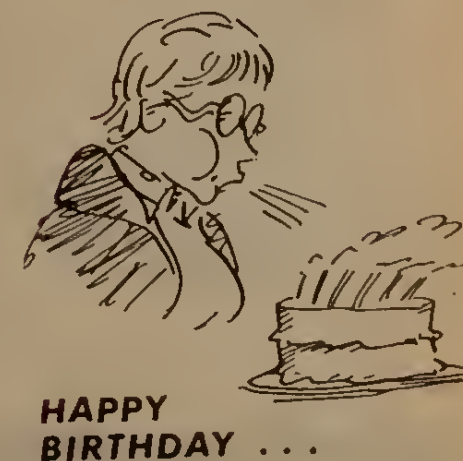
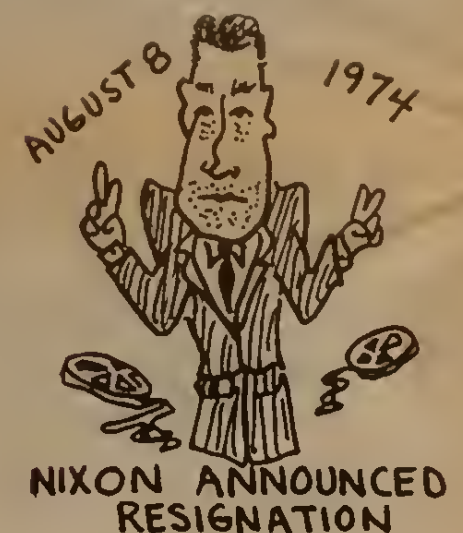
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